

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Currently amended) An electro-acoustic transducer, comprising:
 sound-generating means arranged in an annular form, wherein the sound-generating means defines an interior space, which is accessible from outside the sound-generating means when the transducer is being manufactured and before the circuit unit is fitted, said generating means being held in place by a plurality of snap-fit tabs; and
 a circuit unit, comprising a circuit substrate and at least one circuit component of a signal-processing circuit, the circuit component being mounted on the circuit substrate, ~~wherein the sound-generating means define an interior space, which is accessible from outside the sound-generating means when the transducer is being manufactured and before the circuit unit is fitted, and~~
 ~~wherein the at least one circuit component is positioned within the interior space defined by the sound-generating means and forms forming~~ a communication circuit of a communication partner device for contactless communication with said sound generating means, said circuit unit being held in place by a releasable snap-action latching connection.
2. (Previously amended) The electro-acoustic transducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one circuit component comprise only a single circuit component formed by an integrated circuit connected to the circuit substrate, the integrated circuit forming the communication circuit.
3. (Currently amended) The electro-acoustic transducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one circuit component is embedded in a plastics encapsulation and two connecting contacts, each of which is connected to a moving coil contact of a moving coil of the sound-generating means, ~~are~~ in contact with the plastics encapsulation, and wherein the moving coil is used, in addition, as a contactless transmission means of the communication partner device.

4. (Previously amended) The electro-acoustic transducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sound-generating means comprises a diaphragm, and wherein four contract terminals, each in the form of a sector of a substantially circular annulus, are provided on a face of the circuit substrate facing away from the diaphragm.

5. (Previously amended) The electro-acoustic transducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the circuit unit is removable without the use of a separate tool.

6. ((Previously amended) The electro-acoustic transducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transducer comprises a cup-shaped housing, having a height in a direction parallel to an axis of the transducer between 2 and 5 mm and a diameter perpendicular to the direction of the transducer axis between 6 and 20 mm.

7. (Currently amended) An electro-acoustic transducer, comprising:
a sound-generator having an annular form and defining an interior space, wherein the interior space is accessible from outside the sound-generator when the transducer is being manufactured and before the circuit unit is included, the sound-generator further comprising a moving coil, said sound generator being held in place by at least two snap-fit connections; and

a circuit comprising a circuit substrate and at least one circuit component of a signal-processing circuit, the at least one circuit component being mounted on the circuit substrate and embedded in a plastics encapsulation comprising at least one contact, the at least one contact being connected to a moving-coil contact of the moving coil, ~~wherein the interior space is accessible from outside the sound-generator when the transducer is being manufactured and before the circuit unit is included~~, and wherein the at least one circuit component is positioned within the interior space and forms a communication circuit of a communication partner device for contactless communication, the moving coil being used for the contactless communication, said circuit component being held in place by a snap-action latching mechanism.

8. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 7, wherein the annular form of the sound-generator comprises one of a circle or an ellipse.

9. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 7, wherein the annular form of the sound-generator comprises one of a square or a rectangle.

10. (Currently amended) An electro-acoustic transducer, comprising:
a sound-generator defining an interior space, the sound generator comprising a diaphragm, a moving coil in contact with the diaphragm, and a magnet system arranged around an outer perimeter of the interior space; and
a circuit unit, at least a portion of which is configured to be insertable within an inner perimeter of the interior space defined by the sound-generator and held in place by a snap-action latching mechanism, the circuit unit comprising a substrate and at least one circuit component mounted on the substrate, wherein the at least one circuit component forms a communication circuit of a communication partner device for contactless communication.

11. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 10, wherein the substrate comprises a plurality of contacts on an outer face, facing away from the diaphragm.

12. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 11, wherein the circuit unit further comprises an encapsulation portion, the at least one circuit component being housed within the encapsulation portion.

13. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 12, wherein the circuit unit further comprises at least one contact connected to the encapsulation portion, the at least one contact being electrically connected to at least one contact of the moving coil.

14. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 13, wherein the inner periphery of the interior space defined by the sound generator circuit unit is substantially circular.

15. (Previously presented) The transducer of claim 13, wherein the inner periphery of the interior space defined by the sound generator circuit is substantially rectangular.